

FRANCE IN GRAVEST PERIL

Law Bows Before the Mob
and Mining Districts Are
in Open Revolt.

PARIS IN FEAR OF MAY DAY.

Disorder Spreading Rapidly as a
Result of the Weakness
of the Government.

Enemies of the Republic, Encouraged by
successful Resistance to the Law,
Move Together to the Attack—M.
Clemenceau, "Lion of French Politics,"
Makes Thorough Failure of Handling
Labor Situation—Troops Kept in the
Disturbed District Subject to Assault
and Abuse and With Orders Not to Fire
—Red Flag Raised at Many Points
—Further Hesitation to Enforce Law
at Any Cost May Result in Another
Bloody Chapter of French History.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN

PARIS, April 23.—Sunny April skies never smiled upon a fairer Paris, the streets of the world's gayest capital never teemed with brighter life, San Francisco itself on the eve of its great calamity showed no more outward signs of impending disaster than are visible here to-day, yet France at the present moment is face to face with the gravest peril that can menace a democracy or any form of government.

The law has bowed before the mob in more than one disturbed district, with the inevitable result. Rebellion has begun and anarchy threatens to follow swiftly not only at the scenes of the prevailing riots, but in Paris itself.

The attention of the world cannot fail to concentrate on the tremendous object lesson in modern statecraft which France will be compelled to furnish in the next few days. The situation is of such vast importance yet so simple withal that it is necessary to review briefly its inception and development.

France is not anarchistic, revolutionary or even socialistic in its general public sentiment any more than is America, England or Germany. The country honestly believes in republican principles, and the sincere desire for peace of the French people has been amply demonstrated by their splendid restraint under German provocation during the past year.

WEAKNESS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Since the retirement of Prime Minister Waldeck-Rousseau the country has not had a strong government in its internal administration. Weakness first manifested itself in tolerance of virtual defiance of the law. Even President Loubet on one occasion permitted a red flag to pass him in a procession without a protest. Virtual treason has been talked openly in certain quarters for months past.

There will be attempts made to connect the present labor insurrection with the agitation against the religious separation law. The only connection is the effect of a bad example. It was in dealing with the rioters who opposed the authorities taking inventories of church property that the Government first openly condoned violent defiance of the law. Citizens who flagrantly assaulted public officers and soldiers who refused to obey orders were allowed to go free. Attempts to enforce the law in districts where it was especially unpopular were finally abandoned entirely.

ENEMIES OF THE REPUBLIC MOVE TO THE ATTACK.

It was a foregone conclusion that this successful defiance of law would encourage agitators of various types to press forward their schemes for undermining the Government. All the enemies of the present régime, though there was no direct cooperation, advanced to the attack simultaneously. The Royalists, Clericals, anarchists and Socialists were reinforced by the great body of organized labor, whose rank and file are not enemies of the Republic, but whose unscrupulous leaders seized the opportunity to press demands which they knew were impossible of attainment in ordinary times.

The conditions were provocative and the opportunity unique. The unnatural alliance of inharmonious groups known as "the bloc" had gained control of the Government and elected M. Fallières President of the Republic. It was known that M. Clemenceau was the real power behind the throne. The opposition was so strong that it was thought by M. Clemenceau's own supporters among the labor leaders that the chance was a good one to demand concessions.

M. Clemenceau is not a Socialist, but he has always posed as a staunch supporter of organized labor. He and the Government may be expected to say presently that the agitation in the country is not the work of true labor unions, but is the result of a plot among the enemies of the Republic, with the Revolutionary object.

After all, Usher's the Scotch that made the highball famous—Ad.

Twenty Trains a Day Between New York and Buffalo by the New York Central Lines.—Ad.

There is really no evidence of any such coalition.

CLEMENCEAU DISAPPOINTING.

When M. Clemenceau came into power six weeks ago every one expected a stern, Draconic administration. He had been known for twenty years as the lion of French politics. For many years he had made and remade Cabinets at his pleasure, scorning to take office himself. Yet he was the most feared man in French political life.

His first action, or that of the Cabinet, was virtually to suspend the execution of the Separation law. Then came the Courrières disaster. The ignorant, superstitious population at first regarded the calamity as a visitation of God to punish France for divorcing the Church and State, and they made violent demonstrations against the representatives of authority. This outbreak was naturally treated with great toleration until it speedily exhausted itself.

Then popular wrath turned against the mine owners and a strike began. Some of the demands of the men were reasonable, and the companies promptly announced their willingness to comply with them. It may readily be admitted that the miners had genuine grievances in some respects which ought to have been redressed long ago.

M. Clemenceau visited the district and endeavored to persuade the strikers to accept the conditions and return to work. Up to that point he acted wisely and courageously. His well known sympathy with such movements gave his personal influence great weight.

REIGN OF TERROR IN MINING DISTRICTS.

He might have succeeded, but two developments prevented. First, several survivors of the disaster, brought to light three weeks after the accident, disclosed the fact that many more might have been reached if the work had been intelligently conducted. The miners became convinced that the companies had deliberately sacrificed many lives by covering certain shafts in order to smother the fire. This was untrue, but the idea naturally infuriated the populace.

Then came professional agitators from Paris, who systematically went about spreading sedition and seeking to change the movement from an ordinary strike into a general insurrection. This change in the situation was sudden, distinct and radical. It should have been met by a similar change in the policy of the Government. High handed outrages were committed and soon developed into a reign of terror. More than 40,000 men joined in open defiance of the law and its representatives.

A few troops were sent at first. Their orders were to remain concealed in public buildings and certain mining properties. When matters became worse more soldiers were sent. Their instructions were to show themselves for moral effect, but on no account to use their arms, even in self-defense. They were passively to defend public buildings and certain mines, but ordinary private property was to be left at the mercy of the mob.

The rioters speedily took advantage of this licensed lawlessness. They destroyed everything they could lay their hands on, including the railway and telegraph lines, looted shops and burned houses.

TROOPS ATTACKED; NOT ALLOWED TO FIRE.

Then matters reached a pass which is almost incredible. The mob attacked the troops in the streets, pelting them with a murderous fusillade of bricks, stones and other missiles. One or two were killed and many wounded. The heavy brass helmets which protected the heads of the cuirassiers were battered out of shape and hundreds of troops were more or less hurt.

What other troops in the world with weapons of revenge in their hands and their fingers on the triggers would have refrained from pouring death volleys into the ranks of their unprovoked assailants? The French soldiers stood this marvellous test of discipline and the mob escaped unscathed. The experiences in Pas de Calais during the last week have shown the stuff of which the French Army is composed in a manner which should excite world wide admiration. The men composing the military force in the district are from a distant part of France. They have no sympathy with the strikers and there is not the smallest doubt that they would gladly obey orders to suppress the rebellion. Their courage under the most trying circumstances is in strong contrast to the pusillanimity of their civil superiors, who deprived them of the right to defend the law. The Temps thus describes one of these engagements:

A VICTORY FOR THE INSURGENTS.

"During the night numbers of strikers from Denain assembled at Wallers for the purpose of correcting some miners for resuming work. The troops in the village only consisted of a squad of the Thirteenth Cuirassiers from Chartres and several brigades of gendarmes. Nevertheless they advanced against the insurgents, but were received with showers of stones, and two of the cuirassiers were wounded. The insurgents proceeded to destroy the furniture in the houses of the recalcitrant workmen and afterward proceeded to effect the rescue of three of their comrades who had been taken prisoners to Havely, approaching which village they numbered 3,000.

"Light cavalry sought to check their entrance, but were overwhelmed with showers of stones, and several of them were unhorsed. Armed with empty bottles with which to renew the assault and forced the cavalry to retire. The crowd entered the village triumphantly, singing the 'Internationale' which has replaced the 'Marseillaise' as a war song. The houses occupied by the workers were immediately wrecked amid the savage joy of the wreckers, a section of whom prepared defensive barricades against the arrival of reinforcements.

"Two squadrons of the Thirteenth Cuirassiers arrived and were received with a storm of broken bottles and bricks. They passively sat on their horses, being unable

to deploy in a narrow street. A half hour was taken to get possession of the first barricade. The Cuirassiers slowly advanced against the yelling mob, being hit, abused and cursed on all sides. The order was finally given to dismount after many had been wounded, helmets stove in, cuirasses dented and horses covered with blood.

"Twenty times the soldiers gallantly charged in vain, for the crowd re-formed, sending avalanches of missiles. Several groups of soldiers appeared to be totally lost, but by vigorous sword play they succeeded in extricating themselves and their unhorsed companions. The fight lasted an hour. Several free horses galloped toward Denain. Each soldier falling caused cries of joy. Suddenly Capt. Hermeulin fell, smitten to earth by a brick, senseless. Twenty insurgents rushed out of a wine shop crying: 'Kill him, kill him.' Sergt. Grandry, seeing the danger, covered his fallen chief until aid arrived.

"Orders were given, as the horses were exhausted, to retire on the mine, amid the triumphant shrieks of the victorious insurgents. At the dismount the bugles sounded 'surrender.' A volley of stones was the only reply. Carbines were loaded and the order to fire was about to be given when the Mayor of Havely rushed in and begged that the three prisoners be freed. The commander after taking their names consented, whereupon the insurgents withdrew, singing victoriously. More than 100 soldiers were wounded, yet not a shot was fired."

RED FLAG FLOATS OVER CLEMENCEAU.

The Minister of the Interior was once more to the disturbed districts. He told the leaders of the strike that they really must not act in this violent way. He even went so far as to intimate that if things got much worse the soldiers might be compelled to use their weapons.

At the close of his visit there was an amazing scene. M. Clemenceau walked in a friendly way down the street with a large company of revolutionists. There was a red flag in the group and some sang the victory song, "Internationale."

They met a column of cavalry and M. Clemenceau's companions joined in loud hisses and jeers, and the Minister of the Interior listened in silence. He made no attempt not to identify himself with the insult to authority.

PARIS LOOKS FOR MAY DAY OUTBREAK.

It is not to be wondered at that the movement is spreading like wildfire among all the malcontents in the country. Great strikes are now in progress at Brest, Toulon and most of the seaports, and every preparation has been made in Paris for a general outbreak on May Day or earlier.

THE "TEMPS" CALLS FOR ACTION.

Some idea of the extremity of the situation, some notion of the gravity of the crisis reached, may be gained from extracts from the Temps, the most serious paper in France. Under the caption of "Mauvaise Strategie" yesterday the paper said:

"The insurrection gains in violence, in extent, and in perfection also. Each day records a new victory for the revolutionary strategists. On Friday morning at Havely they routed two squadrons, seriously wounding a captain and several troops. At nightfall they seized the village of Lievin, occupied the railway, tore up the gas lamps and telegraph posts and placed the red flag on the ruins of a burned house. Thus the revolutionary standard flies from victory to victory, one day throwing its protective color over a Minister's head and the next day demonstrating the powerlessness of the same Minister to combat against it."

"M. Clemenceau was still in Pas de Calais while some of these events occurred. His prestige failed to subdue the anarchist hordes. He alone will be the sole person astonished at this. When one is Minister of the Interior it is less important to act for one's self than to give necessary orders, and orders can be given from Paris. M. Waldeck-Rousseau invariably directed strikes from this city. It is no injustice to M. Clemenceau to add that Waldeck-Rousseau also could have better directed them. Furthermore, can one say that M. Clemenceau directs them? Rather he lets them direct him, therein laying the whole novelty of his system."

"Columns of newspapers are unnecessary to demonstrate this. The Temps to-day is obliged to avow that the Minister of the Interior's generous attempt has not received from either side the reception it deserved."

"It is only wrong efforts that fail thus pitifully. Some one has more wit than the Minister. Furthermore, facts talk eloquently. The dead and wounded attest M. Clemenceau's error. He at the same time has committed an error of diplomacy and an error of tactics in this unlucky strike affair. His initial error was in diminishing the importance of Deputy Basly's personality and weakening his authority. Had M. Clemenceau taken the trouble to instruct himself ere acting he would have learned of M. Basly's towering influence over the miners, but in his haste personally to overcome the difficulty he started without a guide, going directly to M. Brouthoux and favoring by his presence anarchy and direct action in pillaging."

"It is reported that arriving lately at Lens he greeted M. Basly with 'I am not pleased with you.' Since M. Basly represents a peaceful strike and M. Brouthoux a revolutionary strike M. Clemenceau ought to have visited the former and not the latter. As to the method of maintaining order his idea was no less regrettable. Indeed, it is full time to alter the method. What is wanted is less journey, fewer useless words and more action."

"Even the Humanité itself, not without irony, seeks to spare M. Clemenceau so many journeys, for it says, 'we are not at all convinced of their utility or object.' At the same time the Humanité regrets that the voice well known in the Humanité heard reproving the instigators in the north. Alas, the great voice can not resound simultaneously in the north and south, where M. Jaures is actually uttering electoral speeches. Moreover, the reasons which urge M. Clemenceau to fuss about perhaps are the same as those which induce M. Jaures to keep quiet."

"Let it not be forgotten that the unified Socialist party is solid with the Confédération du Travail. However that may be, the hour is not one for quarrels. An urgent need of social conservation exists. The revolution, ably organized by the Confédération du Travail, extends its ravages. At L'Orient a general strike is declared. The plundering of the shops

has begun. The unions agitate. Preparations are being made for a formidable May day. Enough of dreams, enough of weakness. The Government knows the origin of the revolutionary movement. Let it act."

CRITICAL DAYS FOR FRANCE.

It is not difficult to understand the motives which induce M. Clemenceau to persist in the fatal policy of permitting anarchy to flourish in a considerable part of France. He fears to restore order chiefly because he is afraid the necessary use of bullets and bayonets would cause him to lose in the elections of May 6. This might be the consequence, for organized labor would resent the shooting of mobs of strikers even if they assumed the character of revolutionists.

His hesitation to uphold the law at any cost, however, now promises to result in a bloody chapter of French history. The repression of disorder with a firm hand as soon as the outrages began would have saved many lives which, it is feared, must now be sacrificed.

The Government itself is most concerned about Paris. They fear not only demonstrations by a mob, but anarchy outrages. It must be remembered that pronounced riots for a certain date are seldom carried out, on account of the overwhelming preparations made to deal with them. There will be many thousands of troops in Paris by the end of the week, and while some of the officers are disaffected, there is no reason to believe that the rank and file are disloyal.

The question is whether the Government dare use its own weapons in an emergency. It is an increasing belief that they dare not, which makes the danger really great. Many preparations are being made for eventualities.

The alarm has reached many foreign visitors through the consulates, and strangers are preparing to leave. The hotels are laying in large stores of provisions and the banks are sending the bulk of their securities out of the country. The Bourse continues weak, but the tendency toward a panic has thus far been avoided. Everything, in fact, depends upon whether those whose duty it is to maintain law and order quickly show a determination to execute their task sternly.

It is a grave crisis, but no worse than would arise in any country if the arm of the law was suddenly paralyzed. The who threaten to overthrow republican institutions are a small proportion of the citizenry. The bulk of their apparent supporters are misguided and ignorant workmen, who are not at heart enemies of France or its Government. They are just as dangerous at the present moment, however, as if they were the members of an invading army.

The difficulties of the Government in the present crisis are enormous, but they are largely of their own making. The causes which will decide the result of the pending election lie not in the past, but in the intervening ten days before the country goes to the polls. These ten days will be pregnant with events of deep significance for the greater future of France.

No one will watch these developments with greater sympathy and good will for the French Republic than the Americans. They hope to see the men whom the responsibility rests quickly above partisanship and become the defenders and saviors of their country.

ABUSED FREIGHT CENSORSHIP.

One significant sign of the weakness of the Government is also in its puerility. They are regularly censoring press telegrams in the hope of preventing the facts from getting abroad. Two despatches to THE SUN were stopped in the last two days.

As a matter of precaution, a duplicate of this despatch was sent by messenger to London in case of its non-transmission by wire from here.

400 MORE BODIES

Found North of Market Street—Total Death Roll May Exceed 1,000.

OAKLAND, Cal., April 23.—The loss of life from the fire in San Francisco bids fair to be much higher than the estimates that were sent out on the second day of the disaster after the first day's estimates had been revised. It is probable now that the loss of life is greater than 1,000.

The reason for saying this is that more than 400 bodies were discovered to-day by the workmen who were cleaning up the debris on the north side of Market street.

The heavy loss of life was supposed to have occurred, and undoubtedly did occur, on the south side of Market street among the roofers and the tumble-down buildings in which the Italians and the poorest laborers lived.

The finding of 400 bodies on the North Side to-day indicates a still heavier loss of life in that region, which, taken together with the loss on the south side of Market street, makes it more than probable that the total loss is more than 1,000, and that it may run heavier still.

\$15,000,000 FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

Secretary Shaw to Deposit Government Funds in the Banks of That City.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Secretary Shaw immediately after the Government funds in the amount of \$15,000,000 in the national banks of San Francisco and vicinity. These deposits are to be made for the purpose of relieving the urgent needs of currency in San Francisco resulting from the earthquake calamity, and the transfer of funds will be made as soon as the national banks are able to comply with the necessary condition. This condition is the same as is applied to the regular national bank deposits, namely, the deposit of Government bonds with the Treasurer of the United States as security for the money to be deposited in the banks.

Of the \$15,000,000 which is to be sent to California \$5,000,000 will go to the Crocker-Woolworth National Bank of San Francisco and the rest will be placed on deposit with other leading banks of San Francisco, Oakland and vicinity.

Gideon C. Bantz, departmentary assistant treasurer of the United States, left Washington for San Francisco to-night to superintend the transfer of the wrecked sub-treasury in that city to other quarters. It is the desire of the Treasury authorities to have business resumed at the San Francisco sub-treasury at the earliest possible moment.

CONNOISSEURS THE WORLD OVER

favor Ayala Magnet Champagne. At best hotels, clubs and all stores of Acker, Remond & Condit Co., Ad.

Demand what doctors recommend—Dewar's. Above all, Dewar's Scotch is pure.—Ad.

RAIN ADDS TO MISERY IN FRISCO.

Flushes the Sewers and Lessens Epidemic Danger.

GOOD HEALTH GENERAL.

Funston Telegraphs That No Epidemic Exists and None Is Feared.

H. C. TILDEN SHOT DEAD.

Killed While Returning From an Errand of Good.

THE EXODUS FROM CITY BRISK.

Only the Hardy Will Soon Have to Sleep Outdoors.

With the Other Elements Against the City.

Rain Seems to Complete the List—Cheerless Night for Those Compelled to Camp or Live in the Open—Gen. Funston, Indignant Over Reports That There is an Epidemic—Denies It Absolutely—Systematic Method of Sheltering the Homeless Adopted—Lumber for Shelters Arriving More Tents Also Come in—Long Bread Lines Formed—No Lack of Food or Water Now—Thieves Still Being Shot by Troops.

A drenching rain which came up in the hours of the early morning has put out the last of the San Francisco fire. It caused great hardship to people sleeping out of doors and with little or insufficient shelter, but it has done great good in flushing the sewers, washing the streets and helping the army surgeons to fight pestilence.

Gen. Funston and Mayor Schmitz, in a despatch to the War Department, indignantly deny the stories that there are epidemics or immediate danger of them. The soldiers and the Red Cross, working with the citizens' committee, have taken in hand the problem of housing the people. A lot of tents arrived in Oakland yesterday. These will be pitched as soon as they can be got across the bay.

Every house in the Western Addition, the residence part, which was not burned, has been forced to accommodate refugees to its full capacity. They are putting up barracks in Golden Gate Park and the exodus from the city continues. The authorities of the Red Cross believe that by the end of the week only the strong and hardy will have to sleep out of doors.

H. C. Tilden, a rich merchant and a member of the citizens' committee, was shot and killed yesterday by members of the citizens' patrol, which is supposed to be helping the soldiers to keep order. He had been taking refugees out to Menlo Park in his automobile and was returning through the Mission district when the militiamen opened fire.

Three members of the citizens' patrol who admit that they did the shooting are under arrest. They say that the occupants of the automobile refused to halt when ordered to do so.

Dr. Clarence E. Edwards, a newspaper man, who used to be an army surgeon, and who had volunteered and been accepted when the fire came, was badly hurt when the troops were blowing up the west side of Van Ness avenue to stop the fire in that direction. There were a few shooting scrapes among toughs along the waterfront, and reports of men caught looting or insulting women being shot by the troops continue to come in.

On the whole, the soldiers have the situation strongly in hand and are enforcing order. The Fourteenth Infantry has arrived to relieve the worn-out commands that went to work on the first day.

It is impossible now to purchase any food in San Francisco. The citizens' committee manages to feed every one, but the rich, unless they happen to have a store of food in

their houses, must take their chances with the poor in the bread lines which are formed in all the parks. The continuous arrival of relief trains makes it certain that the city will not starve. It may be a month at least before all who stay in San Francisco will cease to be wards of the Government.

Work on the rebuilding of San Francisco has actually begun. Architects are drawing up plans in half ruined buildings, and \$20,000,000 worth of contracts will be let as soon as the period of legal holidays ceases. The bankers have urged Gov. Pardee to extend this period until they are ready to reopen. The very condition of the bank vaults is one cause for this. Warned by the experience of Baltimore banks, they are afraid to open the vaults before they are thoroughly cooled. Business cannot go on until the banks reopen, but there is much to do to make the city livable in and the population comparatively stable.

The United Railways, which control all the important car lines in San Francisco, have put men to work straightening out the tracks. Only one important car house was burned; the rest are in the suburbs and traffic will be resumed as soon as the tracks are straightened, new cables laid and the machinery in the power houses set up again. The electric lines, which can probably get power from the long distance transmission systems, may be running in a week or two.

With gangs of men pressed into service the soldiers are getting the debris out of the streets. The discovery and cremation of bodies went on yesterday. Still there are conflicting stories about the loss of life. The truth about this will not be definitely known for some time.

The cheerful news that the sanitary situation is being straightened out is the most encouraging thing that came from San Francisco yesterday. Next to that is the news that the business men of San Francisco are making good their announcement that they will set about rebuilding once.

The State Legislature will be called into special session this week to make laws governing the situation. Garrett McNerny and other lawyers are drafting the laws which the citizens' committee consider necessary.

Major Krauthoff, chief commissary officer at San Francisco, has telegraphed to the Commissary-General of the army in Washington that it is the opinion of the relief committee and himself that further rations from the Government will not be required. This decision was reached at a conference to-day.

RAIN BRINGS DISTRESS.

It Helps the Sanitation, However, and Was Really a Blessing.

OAKLAND, Cal., April 23.—The rain has come, late. It seems as though every force of nature went wrong; as though everything had piled up to make San Francisco's calamity as bad as possible. When the eastern part of the city burned, the regular, steady trades, which should be blowing from the Pacific at this time of year, stopped suddenly and mysteriously, and a wind off the continent carried the fire through the city. Then, during the days of the fire it was clear and bright; not a drop of rain. The man controlled water supply had given out, but a soaking spring rain might have checked the fire and allayed the heat.

Now, after the last of the fire has passed and while from 100,000 to 200,000 persons were sleeping out in the parks, comes a driving rain which soaked the shelterless. It came up about midnight, with a drop in the temperature, and it kept up all night. To-day it is clearing.

We have heard little from the parks to-day, but it could not have been anything but a night of misery. For although some of the people had shelters few were rain-proof; even the tents, pitched in a hurry, must have been set without gutters. Bedraggled as were the people before, they were clean beside the tramps who have been coming over to-day, naked and matted with mud. Imagine a city a week without baths, washbaths and laundries, then set the people to sleep in mud, and you have it.

And still this rain was more of a blessing than a curse. It has flushed the sewers. The San Francisco sewer system took thought of the rains and arranged a gutter overflow which would help the flushing. This has worked automatically. Where the gutters are not choked they have been running into the sewers, washing out the deadly fumes which were beginning to rise.

NO EPIDEMIC FEARED.

Half a dozen San Francisco physicians of experience told me to-day that they do not fear an epidemic, and they present as evidence the fact that there has never been an epidemic in the city, notwithstanding it is a seaport and there is some smallpox nearly all the time. There are two factors against it—the steady wind, foe to the germination of armies of harmful bacilli, and the steady climate, which is never either hot or cold. They say that in the made lands, where by all the laws there should be a great deal of typhoid, a serious spread of that disease is unknown. They admit that there are some cases of smallpox under observation, but the cases have been isolated. More serious, perhaps, is measles, a complaint which although not very serious under normal conditions may make trouble in this time of hardship. Even this they do not take seriously.

FUNSTON SAYS NO EPIDEMIC.

Supplementing this is this despatch, given out to-day in San Francisco by Gen. Funston and afterward sent to the War Department:

"Several telegrams have been received at these headquarters requesting information as to epidemics of contagious diseases

in the city of San Francisco. There is absolutely no truth in any of these statements. There is no epidemic of any kind, and no present prospect of any. Such statements are simply doing harm to San Francisco and injuring the country in general. It would be deemed a great service to the suffering people of San Francisco and all their friends if it could be published throughout the country that the conditions are not so.

"FUNSTON, commanding.

"E. E. SCHMITZ, Mayor."

The troops rule like iron. They continue to shoot marauders, and they have continued to their list the men caught insulting or assaulting women. In the disturbed condition of things some of this work is inevitable, and the soldiers were even more severe with it than with looting. There is a story from Golden Gate Park about a man caught in the act. The soldiers forced him to dig his own grave, stood him up before it and shot him dead. There is at least no one to contradict such tales. Half of them must be untrue; probably there is truth in the rest. But I have seen bodies in the temporary morgues bored through with rifle shots, so that some of them must be true. The conditions here make a study in the growth of rumor.

THE KILLING OF H. C. TILDEN.

The raw boys of the militia did a thing yesterday which made the soldiers unpopular for the day. H. C. Tilden, of an old vigilante family and a member of the general relief committee, was shot dead by militiamen while going about in his automobile on relief work. He had been taking refugees out of the city and was returning by way of the Mission when a party of militiamen on guard opened fire on him—the other members of his party say without even a command to halt—and shot him through the heart. The shooters, who turned out to be members of the citizens' patrol which is helping out the soldiers, are under military arrest. They say that he was trying to take a forbidden passage.

Relief trains arrived all day. There is plenty of food. The machinery of the military relief and of the food department of the citizens' committee is running smoothly. Every day and truck which can be found is employed in getting the food across the freight ferry from Oakland and into the parks and concentration camps. All the bakers who can be found in the city are working at brick ovens turning the flour which arrived early from Stockton into bread. There is a shortage of yeast, but the Italian and French bakers, of which there are many in the city, are working in their own fashion with sour dough, and this helps.

A GREAT BREAD LINE.

The city is one great bread line. The trucks of rations drive up to the parks, the soldiers form the people into lines and each takes his bread, his cooked or uncooked food and his little sack of coffee and departs to cook or eat it. The troops play no favorites. Sometimes it takes two or three hours to get through the lines, and with three meals a day a man living in the parks passes a good part of his time standing for his food. The Red Cross sees that weak women and children are provided for without waiting in line. Even the people living in houses have to take their chances with the rest of the crowd in the parks near by.

SYSTEMATIC SANITATION.

Systematic sanitation, too, goes forward. The concentration camp facing on the bay in the thinly settled part of the residence district under Pacific Heights is ready and occupied. This takes an overflow from Golden Gate Park. Barring tents, it has about everything which the military engineers allow for a regular military encampment, and the site is at least healthful, being on a hillside swept by every wind that blows. From this time on all drinking water served in that camp will be boiled.

SOME LUMBER ARRIVING.

By great luck a lot of lumber yards along the waterfront escaped. Their stock has been appropriated and will be used for barracks in Golden Gate Park. Two or three lumber schooners arriving from the northern forest country were seized and the stocks will be used for the same purpose. Further, the Red Cross, with the approval of Funston, is going through the standing residence district and making every